

Steve Westly *California State Controller*



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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CONTROLLER WESTLY APPOINTS FAIR POLITICAL PRACTICES COMMISSION MEMBER

Sacramento, April 3, 2003 – State Controller Steve Westly today announced that he has appointed Pamela Karlan to serve on the Fair Political Practices Commission (FPPC). The Controller appoints one of the five members of the FPPC, which regulates campaign financing, conflicts of interest and other issues under the Political Reform Act of 1974.

“The Fair Political Practices Commission is charged with ensuring the integrity of our political system,” Controller Westly said. “Professor Karlan has dedicated her career in the courtroom and the classroom to advocating for fairness, voting rights and the Constitution. She is well suited to serve the interests of the people of California on the Commission.”

Karlan, a professor of public interest law at Stanford Law School, has published dozens of articles and casebooks on voting rights, civil rights, affirmative action, abortion rights, campaign finance reform, the political process and discrimination. She has argued and won two voting rights cases before the U.S. Supreme Court and was involved as an advocate and friend of the court in more than 20 other Supreme Court cases.

“I believe the Commission plays a critical role in maintaining our political system and the faith of our citizens,” Karlan said. “I am honored to accept this appointment.”

Karlan is the Kenneth and Harle Montgomery Professor of Public Interest at Stanford University. She previously taught at the University of Virginia School of Law and has been a visiting professor at Yale, Harvard and New York University, and a visiting lecturer at the F.B.I. National Academy.

Earlier in her career, Karlan clerked for two federal judges, including Justice Harry A. Blackmun of the U.S. Supreme Court. Her extensive *pro bono* experience includes work with the NAACP Legal Defense and Educational Fund. She is currently a cooperating attorney with the Legal Defense Fund.

Karlan is a graduate of Yale Law School where she was an editor of the *Law Journal*. She also earned her Master’s degree in history and a B.A. *magna cum laude* in history at Yale University.

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For more information on the Fair Political Practices Commission visit www.fppc.ca.gov